

PHILIP WHARTON EVANS

25 BAR GATE TRAIL

KILLINGWORTH, CONNECTICUT 06457-1372

25 Miles + Northeast of New Haven

Only TV Station I can get without Cable

or Antenna is WNTH Channel 8 ABC

5 March 93

The Commissioners  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St N.W.  
Washington D.C.  
20554

92-259/  
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APR - 9 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In Re State of Connecticut's request request to have Cablevision  
Franchise Area vicinity Fairfield part of the Hartford  
New Haven Home Areas.

Sirs:

At first glance this would appear to be a very simple request. I am not an attorney, but being retired I have time to read several newspapers so I Perhaps can see parts of this picture that are not readily apparent from what one might read/see in media re Cablevision wanting to drop Channel 30, NBC 8 ABC, 3 CBS and 61 Fox in favor of the basically Network "Home Stations" in New York City.

This also involves, I think, a lot bigger can of worms that involves SYNDEX, The National Basketball Association The National Hockey League and maybe the National Football League. If my memory serves, a CT resident who is a Knicks <sup>FAN</sup> (NY NBA) filed suit against the State of CT relative his not being able to get the Knicks on his local cable station because he was domiciled in an area that was Celtics sphere of dominance? I don't get the Hartford Paper so I don't know what the outcome of that suit was, and I do not recall it being reported in the Daily Sunday NY Times, daily Middletown Press, or weekend editions of NH Register.

I was born in Washington D. C. In my 29 years in Navy, I was in and out of Washington. I was a Redskin fan when Mr. Marshall of Palais Laundry fame brought the skins to D.C. from Boston. ~~and~~ Before TV, the Home teams in at least NFC East had to save 3500 seats for sale to the visiting teams, and I and 2,400 Redskins fans would ride three special trains to Philadelphia or New York and march into the Stadium behind the one and only Redskin's band.

When Abe Pollin established the Caps as an NHL team because my young son was deep into Children's Hockey, a Club that sponsored a full range of Children's Hockey that I was a member of had a small number of season tickets to Cap's home games in which the parents/children could bid for the tickets. I was and am a Caps fan. My particular cable operator is Storer Clinton, he carries MSG which

ENCLOSURE

shows some Ranger Caps Games, but only a limited number can be carried on Storer Cinton because of blackout requirements of the Hartford Whalers. Similarly my Cable carries Channel 388 out of Boston that shows some Bruins Caps games, but are often blocked out again by Whalers.

The Whalers have a tie in with Sports Channel. Sports C according to Storer will not sell Sports Channel to Storer unless Storer is willing to pay for it for each subscriber regardless of whether that subscriber is paying for the 2nd tier Storer which I am as I want TNT etc (These are not the so called premium Channels such as HBO, Disney etc)

One of the Ct State Agencies has loaned a fair amount of the Taxpayers Money to help the Whalers, the details of which are not clear in my mind, but I doubt that the Attorney General of CT talked to the Whalers Management about their restrictive black out rights. I cannot state from my personal knowledge that Attorney General Blumenthal or his staff were specifically aware of this. Yes I have

and I can assure you that I have never heard a consumer say he wanted to pay more for the same thing.

I am well aware that you did not write the law that is going to go into effect shortly, and unfortunately your powers are somewhat limited.

But if you are going to rule on whether Fairfield is in the home market of New Haven and Hartford stations as a minimum run some simple signal checks--If the aggrieved stations signal does not reach Fairfield without amplification then they are out.

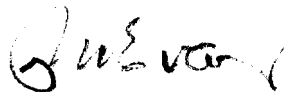
The Attached NY Times article says law permits negotiation I see no signs of it now.

The Attorney General is on record or will be, fine include in the matter, Syndex of the Whaler's and rights of viewers of MSG for Rangers for which I am paying Storer likewise for 388 out of Framingham for Bruins.

Taken NY out of Giants should be able to be effected with a simple one line notice directing all carriers to delete NY. If you are not going to do that--then move the Phoenix Cardinals back to Chicago where they came from name wise--similarly Indianapolis Colts will henceforth be called Baltimore Colts etc.

You may well say that I am mixing apples, oranges and grapefruit. I say it is all fruit salad and you have an opportunity to study a lot of perceived wrongs at the same time

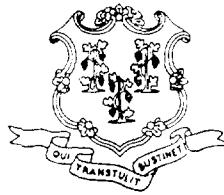
Sincerely,



P.W. Evans

Encl NY Times 4 Mar  
CC Richard Blumenthal, Esq  
Cablevision if I can find an address

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**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONN. 06106

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APR - 9 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM R. DYSON  
NINETY-FOURTH DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 2064  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06521  
TELEPHONE  
240-0390  
1-800-842-8267

February 24, 1993

CHAIRMAN  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
MEMBER  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Irene Tripodi  
General Manager  
Cablevision of Connecticut  
28 Cross Street  
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Ms. Tripodi:

I am writing to express my displeasure of the plans that Cablevision of Connecticut has to discontinue broadcasting Connecticut signals and replace them with New York signals.

# NY TIMES 4 MAR 12 Connecticut Cable Company Is Refusing to Pay TV Stations

By GEORGE JUDSON

Special to The New York Times

STAMFORD, Conn., March 3 — The cable-television company serving southwestern Connecticut stood firm against state officials today, saying it would drop Connecticut's broadcast stations unless the stations agreed to waive fees for their signals.

The company, Cablevision, said the Connecticut stations, broadcasting from Hartford and New Haven, are not part of the home market of its franchises, and so are not entitled to fees that a 1992 Federal law allows local-broadcast stations to negotiate with cable operators.

## Likely to Delay Action

But Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said he would petition the Federal Communications Commission to declare Cablevision's franchise area part of the Hartford and New Haven home market, thus requiring the company to carry the stations.

The State Department of Public Utility Control, meanwhile, appeared

likely to delay action on Cablevision's plans to change its programming — and on Mr. Blumenthal's request to revoke the company's licenses — until the F.C.C. issues regulations in April clarifying the 1992 law.

"That will give some time to determine what can or can't be done by the F.C.C. or by us," said Beryl Lyons, a spokeswoman for the agency, whose officials met today with Cablevision executives, Mr. Blumenthal, and representatives from the state's broadcast stations.

By extending the period of advance notice that Cablevision must give for programming changes, Ms. Lyons said, the agency could block the company from dropping Connecticut stations during that time.

But a lawyer for Cablevision, Robert P. Knickerbocker, said that action would be unconstitutional, because the agency cannot dictate the programming that cable companies carry. "And by freezing programming as it currently exists," he said, "that's what they would be doing."

Cablevision announced in Febru-

## Dispute hinges on the definition of 'home market.'

ary that it was dropping Connecticut's broadcast stations to make room for new specialty channels, including the Sci-Fi Channel and the Cartoon Network.

## Protests From Customers

The Connecticut stations, the company said, duplicated stations from New York, which includes Fairfield County in its broadcast market. It said a new Connecticut Channel would carry selected newscasts, sports and other local programming from the Connecticut stations.

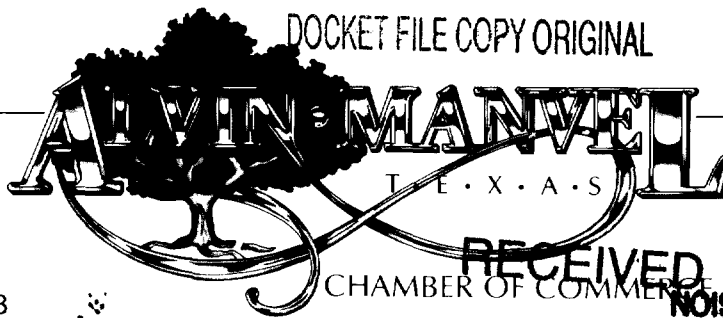
A survey of customers, Cablevision said, found they favored dropping the Connecticut stations to make room for new programming.

The announcement quickly drew protests from some customers, from the stations, and from many politicians, including Mr. Blumenthal and Gov. Lowell P. Weicker Jr. In a state that has always suspected the loyalty of Fairfield County, so near New York City, Cablevision's threat of secession stung.

Cablevision subsequently said it would keep the Connecticut stations, but only if they agreed to forgo any fees that the Federal law entitled them to negotiate. Until now, cable companies have not had to pay fees. Cablevision also said it wanted the public utility department to expedite the renewal of its franchise licenses, which expire in 1996 and 1998.

Mr. Blumenthal said his petition to the F.C.C. would block Cablevision from dropping the stations until the Federal agency makes a ruling.

"What they're doing, really," he said of Cablevision, "is holding the consumers of Connecticut in a high-stakes game of chicken while attempting to bolster their bargaining position against broadcast stations."



POLICY &amp; RULES DIVISION

MAR 23 1993

March 12, 1993

Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

APR - 9 1993

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Dear Mr. Chairman:

As Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, I am writing to you in an effort to inform you about my views on the "MUST CARRY" bill that requires your approval.

An equitable "MUST CARRY" is vital in order to protect the viewer's constitutional right to free broadcast programming and information offered by all local stations. A "MUST CARRY" must make it possible for all local stations to be carried on local cable systems. A minimum viewing standard is the objective of "MUST CARRY." Excluding any licensed broadcast station as part of "MUST CARRY" is NOT in the public interest.

It is crucial that viewers be allowed their constitutional right to view free programming and free information offered by KHSB TV 67. Viewers should be allowed to receive ALL the FREE stations when they subscribe to a cable company.

KHSB TV 67 produces a program on issues concerning the community. The "In Your Interest," I believe, is an important component to the offering of information to the people of Alvin and the Houston Metropolitan area. It is vital to all viewers to have access to the 13 hours of public information that is provided by KHSB TV 67. I have been an invited guest on Channel 67's issue responsive program "In Your Interest" to discuss matters of concern to ALL viewers. In it's unique format, "In Your Interest" affords a wider segment of the viewing audience the opportunity to gain important information that we discussed and presented differently from the traditional public affairs formats.

I urge you to reject any proposal which would bar ANY local television stations from being carried on local cable systems. As a licensed television station, KHSB TV 67 is dedicated to serving the public. Any artificial constraint on their ability would harm the community KHSB is licensed to serve.

I urge you to keep KHSB TV 67 accessible to all viewers.

No. of Copies 1  
Listed POPE

Sincerely,

Sally Spann  
Executive Director

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92-259

February 11, 1993

Federal Communication Commission  
Cable TV Branch  
1919 M St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Sirs: Re: Cable TV Bill

Once again the Special Interest Groups have made it terrible for the folks back home.

When this bill was debated on the House floor which we viewed on C-SPAN we were assured what has happened to us would not!!  
"We would still have our Cable channels without any rate increase" and on and on the glowing words ran on.

We here in southern New Mexico are being dominated by the so-called "Area of Dominant Influence" of El Paso. Have now had two stations blacked out. We were assured that this could only happen when the two stations had simultaneous telecasts. NOW- it means ALL programs.

First it was the ABC station KVIA of El Paso removing the Albuquerque station, KOAT from which we receive all of our news and other interesting programs concerning our State Legislature and northern news affecting our area here in the south. Now, KCIK removes KTTV from Los Angeles.

IF we only wanted NBC, CBS or ABC out of El Paso none of us would have signed on for Cable TV. El Paso does NOT serve our needs!

Because of this above mentioned affair, our cable has now blacked out 2 channels and raised our rates as well! Less service for more price!!

The more we learn about the clause concerning "MUST CARRY CHANNELS" the worse it becomes. Our rates will increase again with less service and service of things we do NOT want!

PLEASE re-consider what this Bill does to us.

We opposed this bill as debated on the House Floor and are more than vehemently opposed to the way it is being implemented now.

Sincerely,

*Marjorie S. Yaryan*

Marjorie S. Yaryan  
1715 W. Boutz Rd.  
Las Cruces, N.M. 88005-3858

Noted/Referred  
DATE

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FEB 21 9 55 AM '93

MR.  
F.  
L.

William Lord  
32 Flying Cloud Road  
Stamford, CT 06902  
961-8131

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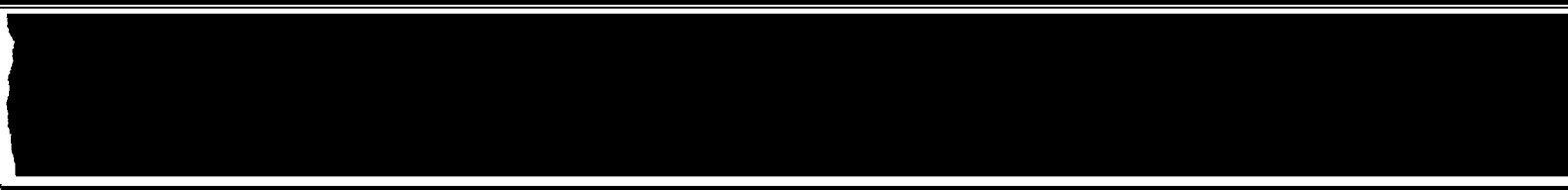
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 18, 1993

Ms. Donna Garofano  
Director of Government & Public Affairs  
Cablevision of Connecticut  
Norwalk, CT

Dear Ms. Garofano:

It is distressing indeed to see a publicly regulated Connecticut cable





92-2591



JOHN C. DANIELS  
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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CITY OF NEW HAVEN  
CONNECTICUT 06510

APR - 9 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

March 2, 1993

Irene Tripodi  
General Manager  
Connecticut Cablevision  
28 Cross Street  
Norwalk, CT 06851

Dear Ms. Tripodi:

I am writing to you concerning your company's proposal to discontinue broadcasting Connecticut signals to your customers.

We are living in a volatile time in our state's history. Now more than ever before citizens must work cooperatively, communities must share burdens with their neighbors, and we must all work closer together to realize our goals.

Your proposal would be extremely detrimental to the spirit of cooperation and regionalism we are striving to achieve. Keeping citizens informed is a sacred duty, a responsibility that must not be taken lightly.

I urge you to reconsider this plan, and to invest your creativity

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PAUL L. CHAMPANIER  
64 BENSTONE STREET  
STAMFORD, CT 06905-3516

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APR - 9 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 19, 1993

Federal Communications Commission  
Mass Media complaints  
1919 M Street North West  
Washington, D.C. 20554

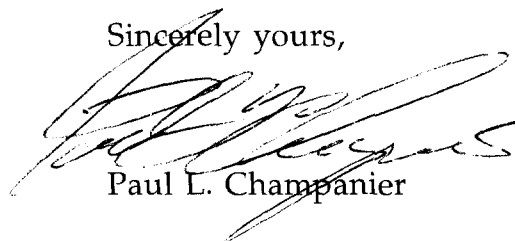
Dear Sirs:

Attached is a letter to Cablevision of Connecticut regarding their intention to drop Connecticut television stations, WFSB, WVIT, WTIC, WTNH, and WTXN.

We feel that this action is a failure of Cablevision to provide local coverage for Connecticut residents, and we urge the FCC to designate Connecticut stations as local for Connecticut, not New York City.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Paul L. Champanier



Linda H. Champanier

1 encl

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PAUL L. CHAMPANIER  
64 BENSTONE STREET  
STAMFORD, CT 06905-3516

February 19,1993

Eileen McHail  
Cablevision of connecticut  
28 Cross Street  
Norwalk, CT 06851-4613

Dear Ms McHail:

This is to let you know that my wife and I are very unhappy with Cablevision's plans to drop full coverage of Connecticut TV stations, especially, WTNH, andWTXX.

Although we are pleased with your plans to add the E channel and the Science Fiction channel, we feel that dropping Connecticut coverage is a grave disservice to those of us serviced by Cablevision of Connecticut.

If you need space, consider dropping the New York stations which do not give us the Connecticut coverage we need. Those of us in this area are still Connecticut residents, affected by Connecticut news and politics, not by New York City news. Need we remind you that you are Cablevision of Connecticut. not Cablevision of

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**Yale New Haven**  
**1826 Hospital**

20 York Street, New Haven, CT 06504

92-2591

FEB 25 9 35 AM '93

February 16, 1993

Irene Tripodi  
General Manager  
Cablevision of Connecticut  
28 Cross Street  
Norwalk, CT 06851

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Ms. Tripodi:

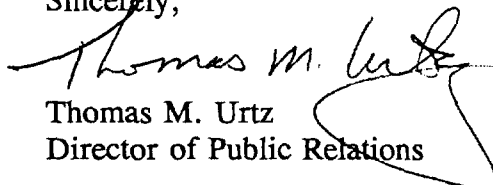
I was shocked by the announcement this morning that Cablevision of Connecticut intends, in essence, to pull the plug on Connecticut television. Your plan to discontinue broadcasting Connecticut signals and replace them with New York signals is an insult to the people on whose behalf you have been granted a monopoly.

What can you say to the neighbors in Woodbridge - one of whom wants to watch WVIT at 6:00 pm and the other who wants to watch WFSB at the same time? How will their needs be met by your proposal? And how are the viewers in Norwalk intended to get coverage of Connecticut issues? Will it be necessary for them to rely on your judgement of the correct newscast to carry on your condensed Connecticut broadcast?

Orange is barely two miles from Yale-New Haven. WFSB and WVIT are in the area covering events on a daily basis. New York television is here less than once a month. What sort of public service will they provide the people in this region? We offer Connecticut important health care services which are often unduplicated in the state. Often the public learns of these services and the services of other hospitals through the public service and news reports on Connecticut television. We will no longer be able to share crucial health care information with large segments of our service areas because of your intended action.

Your changes are a slap in the face of the people and state of Connecticut. I hope you reconsider. The inevitable backlash would best be avoided.

Sincerely,

  
Thomas M. Urtz  
Director of Public Relations

copy: Federal Communications Commission  
Gov. Lowell Weicker  
New Haven Delegation  
New Haven Board of Aldermen

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92-2591  
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Michael T. & Jean P. Gray  
P.O. Box 11050  
Truckee, CA 96162

February 11, 1993

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APR - 9 1993

Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Sir:

We just received a letter from our local Cable Television Company, WestStar, regarding the "must carry" rule of the "Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992". According to the letter, WestStar is required to carry all Reno broadcast stations invoking their rights to be carried under the new law. So far three Reno stations have invoked their rights to be carried. We understand that WestStar is currently at maximum broadcast channel capacity on its

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 17, 1993

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MASS MEDIA BUREAU

Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW

FEB 23 1993

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92-359 /

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February 26, 1993

APR - 9 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FCC  
Washington D.C. 20554  
\*Attention Mr. Dunlop

Dear Mr. Dunlop,

I would like to express my strong objection to applying the so called "must carry" FCC rule indiscriminately, specifically in situations where the implementation of the rule is contrary to the needs of all subscribers of a cable system. I am a subscriber of Weststar Cable in Truckee, California. This is a destination resort for both summer and winter recreation, and consequently, a vast majority of the homes are owned by out of town residents who reside in the greater Sacramento and in the Greater San Francisco-Oakland areas. Weststar Cable representatives tell me that more than 80% of their subscribers are from the Sacramento-San Francisco-Oakland region. The remaining 20% are full time local residents who, in a vast majority of cases, are transplants from the Sacramento-San Francisco region. There is virtually no subscriber who has any ties or interest in the affairs of neighboring Nevada, Reno in particular.

The Truckee area, being in a valley, has no off air TV reception, and therefore, it is entirely dependent on a cable service. Based on the demographics of the Truckee area, the subscribers needs were best met by rebroadcasting most of the major stations from the Sacramento-San Francisco-Oakland area. This is about to change because of the "must carry" provision. The Truckee area is classified as being within the Reno, Nevada viewing area, and therefore, it must comply with the requests from numerous Reno stations to carry their programs on the TV Cable Network. Until now, we had two Reno stations, one of which was a Spanish language station, and with this mix, everyone was satisfied. Because of the "must carry" provision, several Reno stations requested that they be carried on the Cable Network. Because of the full capacity of Weststar Cable's channels, the only way to accommodate the Reno stations is to drop most of the Sacramento-San Francisco-Oakland stations. The subscribers at Weststar Cable are not interested in the goings-on of Nevada or the local news in Reno. We are most anxious to receive the local news, sport events and local programming of our California home town stations in Sacramento, San Francisco, and Oakland. Vital public information is disseminated to us via these stations, such as road conditions, none of which is

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LIBABODE

available from the Reno based stations. A Weststar Cable representative tells me that there are only five cable companies nationally which have this peculiar situation of having nearly all of its subscribers coming from an area other than the local viewing area. I strongly request that you interpret the "must carry" law prudently, and give an exemption to these unique and few cable companies.

Sincerely yours,



John Farkas  
7730 Sierra Dr.  
Roseville, Ca. 95746

CC: Congressman John Doolittle (attention Mr. Glen Bubral)  
6224 Santa Clara Dr. #260 Roseville, Ca. 95661